



March 6, 2014

RE: Raised Bill No. 322

Dear Members of the Committee on Human Services:

The Connecticut Psychological Association (CPA) ***supports R.B. No. 322, AN ACT CONCERNING A BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CLEARINGHOUSE.*** "[A] central information and referral clearinghouse to increase public access to information regarding behavioral health services and offer referrals to residents to appropriate services," is an important service for Connecticut residents. Such a clearinghouse would serve to centralize fragmented information, help residents identify and understand their treatment options, and allow residents take control of their mental health needs by seeking appropriate treatment. Importantly, the proposed legislation also provides for mechanisms to identify gaps in the mental health system, which will be informative and allow for the most efficient allocation of resources in the future. The provision for quality review of the effectiveness of the clearinghouse overall is also important, facilitating change and adaption of the clearinghouse as needed.

We encourage your support of RB No. 322. Thank you for your time.